
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6232

AN ACT PERMITTING SUSPENSION OF PRIVATE PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE COVERAGE BY ELECTRONIC MAIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill allows the owner of a private passenger motor vehicle to request suspension of his or her automobile insurance policy by electronic mail or in writing. Under current law, a request must be submitted in writing to the insurer. The request must state that the vehicle will not be operated for at least 30 consecutive days. During a period of suspension, the law requiring that a vehicle have insurance will not apply as long as the vehicle is not operated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

BACKGROUND

Auto Insurance Requirement

A person who wants to receive or retain a driver's license or motor vehicle registration in Connecticut must provide and continuously maintain a minimum amount of financial security (e.g., insurance), including liability coverage. Liability insurance covers bodily injury to other people and property damage caused by a driver's negligence. The law requires a minimum of (1) \$20,000 per person and \$40,000 per accident for bodily injury liability and (2) \$10,000 per accident for property damage liability (CGS §§ 38a-371, 38a-335, 14-112).

Private Passenger Motor Vehicle

Under insurance law, "private passenger motor vehicle" excludes a motorcycle or motor vehicle used as a public or livery conveyance (CGS § 38a-363(e)). But it includes a:

1. private passenger-type automobile;

2. station wagon-type automobile;
3. camper-type motor vehicle;
4. high-mileage-type motor vehicle;
5. truck-type motor vehicle with a load capacity of 1,500 pounds or less, registered as a passenger motor vehicle or passenger and commercial (combination) motor vehicle, or used for farming; and
6. vehicle with a commercial registration.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 15 Nay 4 (02/10/2011)